



Certification and Higher Education Committee

Maine State Board of Education
Minutes of the April 28, 2015 Meeting

The Certification and Higher Education Committee held a meeting on Tuesday, April 28, 2015, at the Department of Education in Augusta. The following were present: Chair Nichi Farnham; Jana Lapoint; Jane Sexton; and William Beardsley (Board Members). Arthur Keenan, Certification Legal Consultant, Department of Education; and Mary Becker, State Board Secretary Associate.

Also present were: Alan Burton, Board Member

Nichi Farnham called the meeting to order at 9:33 AM.

MOVED by William Beardsley, seconded by Jane Sexton and unanimously voted by those present to approve the March 18, 2015 minutes as written.

UPDATES

Rule Updates:

- Chapter 13: Qualifying Examinations for Teachers, Educational Specialists and Administrators (Arthur Keenan)
 - The State Board of Education adopted the final Chapter 13 rule on April 15, 2015. Arthur sent the final copy of all materials to Sarah Forster, Assistant Attorney General on April 24, 2015. The end of the second comment period was February 27, 2015, so Sarah has until July 27, 2015 (150 days) to comply with the APA process.
- Chapter 114: Purpose, Standards and Procedures for the Review and Approval of Preparation Programs for Education Personnel (Angel Loreda)
 - Angel was not in attendance as he was away at a conference. The Committee has requested that Angel present to the Committee and then to the full SBE the role of a Board Observer at teacher preparation program reviews.
- Chapter 149: Procedures for Obtaining Authorization for Institutions of Higher Education to Offer Degree Courses/Programs in the State of Maine (Angel Loreda)
 - Chapter 149 was amended in November 2008.
- Chapter 170: Standards for Evaluating Request for Degree-Granting Authorizations and for Out-of-State Post-Secondary Institutions Seeking to Offer Academic Credit Courses/Programs in Maine
 - Chapter 170 was amended in November of 2008.
 - LD 428: An Act to Amend the Powers and Duties of the State Board of Education (State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement). A work session was held on March

23rd and the Education Committee voted ought to pass.

- Chapter 115: Certification, Authorization and Approval of Education Personnel
 - The Certification Coordinator position has not been filled.
- Chapter 118: Purposes, Standards and Procedures for Educational Personnel Support Systems
 - The training materials need to be updated and mentors need training. The Department contact person is Mary Paine.

Malik McKinley, Client Relations Director, Educational Testing Service (ETS):

Nichi has invited Malik McKinley from ETS to do a presentation at the June 17, 2015 Committee meeting. The Committee would like an agenda prior to Malik's presentation. The Committee has the following questions for Malik:

- 1) Arthur mentioned to the Committee that it was his understanding from earlier discussions that Maine has always accepted the changes to the tests proposed by ETS. Could Malik double check that and confirm it?
- 2) As to the Core Academic Skills (formerly Praxis I) test:
 - a. Why is the Core test used as opposed to some other test, such as SAT?
 - i. Has there been any studies indicating that there is a correlation between success on Praxis I and success at teaching?
 - b. Is there only one Core test for all jurisdictions?
 - c. If more than one Core test, does Maine take the same Core tests as other New England states?
 - i. If the tests among the NE states are different, can ETS make them comparable so that Maine can compare itself to the rest of New England?
 - ii. If the tests are the same, can Malik provide the committee with the cut scores of the other New England states to provide that comparison?
- 3) With respect to Praxis II tests, is there a different test code assigned for every variation of a particular test, or does it retain the same number even if several states use slightly different versions of it?
 - a. The committee would like to compare Maine's cut scores on the several tests to the other New England states:
 - i. If the other New England states use different tests, can ETS make them comparable so the cut scores of each can be compared?
 - ii. If the tests are the same, can we access the cut scores of the other New England states?

The next Certification Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 27, 2015 at 9:30 AM. The meeting will be held in room 538 of the Cross State Office Building.

Adjournment:

The Certification Committee meeting adjourned at 10:13 AM.

Note: The State Board of Education Certification and Higher Education Committee members, along with Martha Harris and Alan Burton, were scheduled to attend a focus group meeting at 10:15 AM regarding a five year plan to support implementation of proficiency-based diplomas.